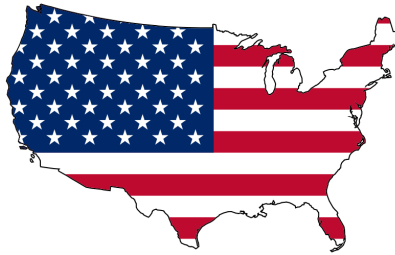


# United States Embassy Macedonia

## Presents Newsletter *C O L L A G E*



*Global articles for your interest*  
*Issue 17*  
*September 18- October 4, 2010*

### **Contents:**

#### **1. US Trade Policy Extremely Open, World Trade Organization Finds**

The World Trade Organization closes a review of U.S. trade policies and practices, finding them “among the most open in the world.” A report by the organization’s secretariat credits restraint shown by the United States with helping to forestall “a worldwide slide into protectionism.” ...

#### **2. Clinton Calls for Greater Cooperation Between NATO and Russia**

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton calls for expanded cooperation between the 28-member NATO alliance and Russia in areas such as a European missile defense system, military doctrine, narcotics control and conventional arms limits in Europe. ...

#### **3. US Urges Americans to Be Cautious in Europe**

Due to continued terror threats from al-Qaida and other organizations, the Obama administration is urging Americans to exercise increased caution and vigilance while traveling in Europe, but is not telling them to cancel their travel plans after issuing an October 3 alert. ...

#### **4. US Lawmakers, Officials Focus on Human Trafficking**

A U.S. House of Representatives panel says progress is being made in the fight against human trafficking, a global problem that affects an estimated 12 million people worldwide. However, committee members and government officials also emphasize there is much more work to be done. ...

#### **5. Diversity Visa Lottery Aims to Widen US Immigrant Pool**

Fifty thousand people from countries that send low numbers of immigrants to the United States will be able take steps toward applying for a visa, or “green card,” to live in America. ...

#### **6. Obama Directive Makes Development “Core Pillar” of US ...**

President Obama tells the Millennium Development Goals Summit at the United Nations that his administration has elevated development as a core pillar of U.S. national security strategy and is focused on programs designed to allow countries to end their dependence on foreign aid. ...

**In case you missed it:**

**U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Facebook](#) page**

**U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Youtube channel](#) **



*Ambassador Reeker (pictured top left) and other U.S. Ambassadors to European countries meet with President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy to discuss ongoing cooperation in Brussels on October 1. (LP)*

## **A Consultation Among Friends**

September 29 through October 1st 2010

Ambassador Reeker joined other U.S. Ambassadors to European countries and senior U.S. officials including Assistant Secretary of State Philip Gordon for meetings in Brussels September 29 through October 1st with key leaders from NATO and the European Union. "As President Obama has said again and again, the U.S. has no more important partner than Europe in advancing security and prosperity around the world," said U.S. Ambassador to the European Union William E. Kennard before the President of the

European Council Herman Van Rompuy and the U.S. Ambassadors.



## **Join Us for a Day of Community Service: Community Blood and Food Drive**

October 7, 2010

The Embassy of the United States will join the City Red Cross of Skopje to host a blood donation and food charity event on Thursday, October 14, 2010. This is the second year that the Embassy and the Red Cross are partnering to host this event. Public donations will be accepted from 10.30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and the event will take place at the U.S. Embassy.

There will be collection points for non-perishable food items and financial donations. The process of blood donation should take less than one-half hour from start to finish, including registration, a brief medical check/questionnaire from the medical staff of Red Cross, donation of blood, and snack and drink to follow. We hope to see you there!!

◇ [Click here](#) for the Red Cross list of recommended food products for donation.



*Ambassador Reeker and Minister of Culture Kanceska-Milevska sign the Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation grant to preserve the Stobi frescoes. (LP) / audio*

## **Ambassador's Fund Grant Will Preserve 4th Century Basilica Frescoes in Stobi**

September 27, 2010

Ambassador Reeker was joined by Minister of Culture Kanceska-Milevska in signing a grant for \$72,600 from the State Department's Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation to preserve the frescoes from the 4th Century Roman Basilica in Stobi. The U.S. Embassy in Skopje has had great success with Ambassador's Fund projects and has been awarded more of these grants than any other U.S. Mission in Europe. The single largest Ambassador's Fund grant ever in Europe was awarded to the Republic of Macedonia last year

for the conservation and restoration of the Byzantine era 'Peribleptos' church in Ohrid. Ambassador Reeker noted that our nine Ambassador's Fund projects in the Republic of Macedonia since 2001 now total over one million dollars and "stand as a symbol of our profound respect for the artistic and cultural traditions of the past, as well as our unwavering commitment to preserving these riches for generations to come."

- ◇ **To see a transcript of his speech, please [click here](#).**
- ◇ **To hear the entire speech (mpg3 file - size 5.45 MB), please [click here](#).**
- ◇ **Video: See the local media coverage's of this Event. ([A1 TV](#) and [MTV1](#) in Macedonian | [MTV2](#) in Albanian).**

### **Related text:**

- **Fact Sheet "Ambassador's Funds for Cultural Preservation"**
- **U.S. Embassy participation and support for Cultural Events/Festivals in Macedonia in 2010.**



*U.S. Army Lt. Col. Fivecoat presents Macedonian Capt. Turturov with an award of appreciation to celebrate the Macedonian Army's 18th birthday at Combat Outpost Shar Hawza, Afghanistan.  
"Photo credit: U.S. Army Spc. Lorenzo Ware, 982nd Combat Camera Co." (LP)*

## **American and Macedonian Soldiers Working Together to Secure Stability in Afghanistan**

**PAKTIKA PROVINCE**, Afghanistan - Macedonian Rangers at Forward Operating Base Sharana recently celebrated their 18th birthday, and U.S. Soldiers from Task Force Iron Rakkasan were there to join them for the event. The two forces have worked together for several months now and will be going their separate ways soon. They took the opportunity to not only celebrate the birthday, but to also show their mutual respect and appreciation. ...[Click Here to](#)

[Read More.](#)



*Ambassador Reeker joins the Alumni in Ohrid. (LP)*

## **Ron Brown Fellows Welcome Ambassador Reeker**

October 1-3, 2010

Alumni of Ron Brown Fellowships from across Eastern Europe met in Ohrid for a regional conference. The Ron Brown Fellowship Program was established for the advancement and strengthening of market economies throughout Central and Eastern Europe, bringing future leaders to study for degrees at universities in the U.S. from 1996-2006. This conference focused on developing Europe-wide Alumni networks with organizations in other European states. Ambassador Reeker joined the Alumni on Sunday and spoke of the role of Alumni in preparing the next generation of leaders through internships, education and professional training programs.



## **Manaki Brothers Festival and U.S. Embassy Organize Journalism Workshop with Variety's Kirstin Swanson Wilder**

The International Cinematographers' Film Festival "Manaki Brothers" and the U.S. Embassy Skopje invite interested professional journalists and journalism students to apply for a cultural journalism workshop with Kirstin Swanson Wilder, Editor and Film Critic for the well-known film industry Variety magazine. The Workshop will be held October 17-20 in Bitola and will be conducted in English. Critiques and articles produced by participants will be published in the on-line Film New Europe magazine. Moreover, seven students will be provided with four-days accommodation and accreditation that will enable them to attend all other programs organized by the Film Festival.

**For further information please contact:**

Ivo Baru at 077 961 055, or by e-mail: [ivobaru@gmail.com](mailto:ivobaru@gmail.com)



*President Obama delivers an address to the United Nations General Assembly.*

© AP Image - LP

## [Address to the United Nations General Assembly](#)

### Remarks by the President to the United Nations General Assembly

September 23, 2010

**President Obama:** "We know this is no ordinary time for our people. Each of us comes here with our own problems and priorities. But there are also challenges that we share in common as leaders and as nations." ... [Full Text»](#)

**For All Embassy News go to:** <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov>

**Small Grants information:** [http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/small\\_grants\\_program.html](http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/small_grants_program.html)

**American Educational Exchange information:** <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/aec.html>

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